

8135 kg

THE
PETITION
OF AN
ENGLISHMAN.

With which are given, a

Copper Plate of the CROIX DE ST. PILLORY,

And a TRUE and accurate Plan of SOME Part of

K E W G R E E N.

[PRICE TWO SHILLINGS.]

THE
P E T T I O N

ENGLISHMAN

With a view to the

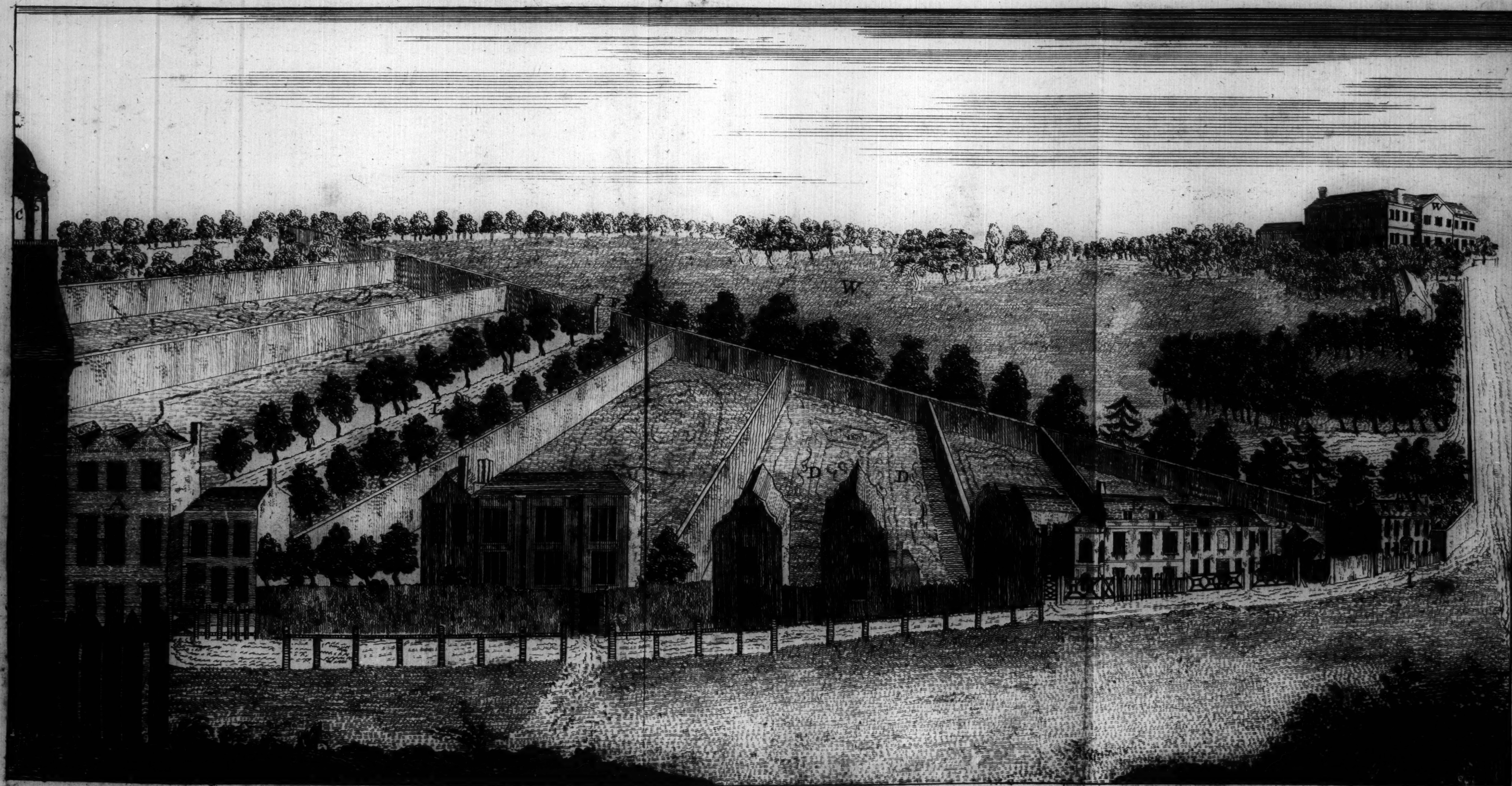
abolition of the Slave Trade

in the West Indies

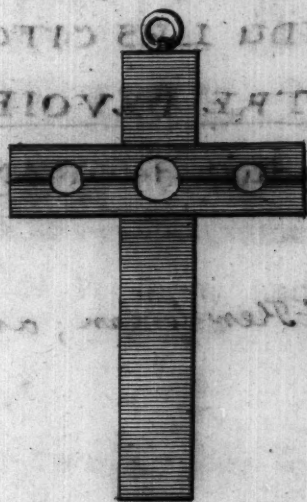
R E W A R D E D



[PRICE TWO SHILLINGS]



THE
PETITION
OF AN
ENGLISHMAN.



La Croix de St. Pillory.

L O N D O N:

Printed for E. SUMPTER, at the Bible and Crown opposite
ST. BRIDES, FLEET-STREET.

MDCCCLXV.

Toute Vérité publique, importante, utile, doit être dite sans Doute : mais s'il y a quelque Anecdote odieuse sur un Prince, si dans l'intérieur de son Domestique il s'est livré comme tant de Particuliers à des Faiblesses de l'Humanité connues peut-être d'un ou deux Confidens, qui vous a chargé de révéler au Public ce que ces deux Confidens ne devoient révéler à Personne ? Je veux que vous ayez pénétré dans ce Mystère, pourquoi déchirez-vous la Voile dont tout Homme a Droit de se couvrir dans le Secret de sa Maison ? Et par quelle Raison publiez-vous ce Scandale ? Pour flatter la Curiosité des Hommes, répondre-vous, pour plaire à leur Malignité, pour débiter mon Livre, qui sans cela ne seroit pas lu. Vous n'êtes donc qu'un Satyrique, qu'un Faiseur de Libelles, qui vendez des Médiances, et non pas un Historien.

Si cette Faiblesse d'un Homme public, si ce **VICE SECRET** que vous cherchez à faire connoître, a influé sur les **AFFAIRES PUBLIQUES**, s'il a fait perdre une Bataille, **DERANGÉ LES FINANCES DE L'ETAT**, **RENDU LES CITOYENS MALHEUREUX** vous **DEVEZ EN PARLER**. **VOTRE DEVOIR** est de **démêler** ce petit **RESSORT CACHE** qui a produit de **GRANDS EVENEMENTS**. Hors de là vous devez taire.

My Justification for the Plan of New-green; and in another Edition will make Part of the Preface.



P R E F A C E

“ when he writes against a particular Person, is when
“ that Person is become a Publick Personage. It is an
“ Action of Virtue to make Examples of bad Men.”

DRYDEN'S OPINION,

Which may serve instead of a

P R E F A C E.

“ **T**HAT Sort of Satire, which is known in
“ England by the Name of Lampoon, is a
“ dangerous Sort of Weapon, and *for the most Part*
“ unlawful.”

“ There are only two Reasons for which we *may be*
“ *permitted* to write Lampoons.

“ The first is, when we have been *notoriously abused*,
“ and can make ourselves no other Reparation.

“ The

“ The *second* Reason which may justify an Author
“ when he writes against a particular Person, is, when
“ *that Person* is become a PUBLIC NUISANCE. ’Tis an
“ Action of *Virtue* to make Examples of bad Men.

“ They may and *ought* to be upbraided with their
“ Crimes and Follies: Both for their own Amendment,
“ if they are not incorrigible; and for the Terrour of
“ others, to hinder them from falling into those Enor-
“ mities, which they see are so severely punished in
“ the Persons of others.

“ The first Reason is only an Excuse for Revenge;
“ but this *second* is absolutely of an Author’s OFFICE
“ to perform.”

See Dedication of Juvenal to Lord Halifax.

T O

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE, TRULY NOBLE,

A N D

TRULY SCOTTISH LORDS,

MORTIMER and JEFFERIES.

MY LORDS,

THIS Address may perhaps differ a little from the usual Style of Petitions. I make no Apology on that Account; nor can your Lordships be offended at it; since the Conduct of you both, in your political and juridical Capacities, has proved you not only the Enemies of all common Forms and received Customs, but the Violators even of the established Laws, Constitution, and Liberties of *my* Country.

The Favour I have to beg, is nothing but what your Lordships have hitherto been willing to bestow very liberally on *my*
B Countrymen.

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“ when he writes against a particular Person, is, when
“ *that Person* is become a PUBLIC NUISANCE. ’Tis an
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6 THE PETITION OF

Countrymen without Sollicitation. And indeed there is Reason to believe that it will shortly become the only remaining Privilege of an ENGLISHMAN.

But my Lords, my Ambition is eager. I cannot wait for that happy Period when this distinguishing Mark of Honour shall become mine by BIRTHRIGHT.

I am impatient to receive it from your Hands, whilst it is conferred only on the chosen Vessels of your Favour. Nor indeed would my Delicacy otherwise be satisfied. It is neither your Choice nor mine to be indiscriminately herded with the Canaille. And I should esteem myself the lowest and most worthless of that Number, If I did not deserve *at least* this Favour from *your Lordships*.

I must confess there was a Time when I should have preferred even death itself to such a Station as I now solicit.

But, my Lords, such is the transmuting Power of State-Chymists like yourselves, that at your Touch, Disgrace is turned to Honour; Punishments change their Nature; and what was intended by our virtuous Forefathers as the Brand of Infamy, becomes in your Hands the Reward of Virtue.

That Whig ADDISON, my lords, was wrong.

“ When Vice prevails, and wicked Men bear Sway,

“ The Post of Honour is a”-----PILLORY.

PRIVACY

PRIVACY I disdain. In Times like *these* 'twere Treason to my Country.

No! Lead me to the Field of Glory! Lead me to the PILLORY.

What would before have branded my Cheek with the burning Blush of Shame, will now suffuse it with the honest Glow of Triumph.

Your Lordships, I find, have been the Cause of a new Institution in this Kingdom, called---THE ORDER OF MERIT---OR---OF THE PILLORY.

The Boon I beg of you is, to be admitted a Knight-Companion of this honourable Order; and that you would, in Consequence of this my Request, speedily issue forth a PARTICULAR WARRANT for me to be invested with this noble CROIX DE ST. PILLORY.

Some such Institution as the abovementioned has long been wanting in this Kingdom.

Give me Leave to assure your Lordships, it is with no small Mortification that my Countrymen appear in foreign Courts and Nations, where they find themselves surrounded by so many *acknowledged* Men of Merit---the Chevaliers of different Orders;---themselves undignified with any Title, but that of---ENGLISHMAN:---their noble Bosoms decorated with no Jewel, but---PRECIOUS LIBERTY.

And

And since by you the ENGLISH Name is now melted down to BRITON: and LIBERTY, wrested from our Hands, is, with great propriety, trusted to the Keeping of SCOTCH JUSTICES, and COURT BOROUGHs;---Leave us not naked of every *honourable Distinction*. Give us this Badge in Lieu of what you have taken from us: that we may afford a striking Proof to some future Montesquieu, how true it is that the SPIRIT of Liberty may survive the CONSTITUTION: and that tho' it is possible for an infamous, royal FAVOURITE, by Corruption of -----, and with the Assistance of an iniquitous, prerogative JUDGE, to harraß and drive insulted Liberty from our Arms; yet still she finds a Refuge, from which she can never be expelled----A FREEMAN'S BREAST.

I have been told, my Lords, that there are no less than thirty thousand Chevaliers in France of one Order alone.

Good God! I have often exclaimed, What!---thirty thousand Men of Merit in one Country!---Thirty thousand Men of *distinguished* military Merit!----What a Nation of Heroes!----What a *Superfluity* of Valour!

Did each Man, but, like Bobadil, kill his Twenty; what People could stand before them.

But on the Institution of our new Order, all this Astonishment must cease. Give this Cross---the Reward of Public Spirit---to every Man who is willing to *deserve* it at your Lordships Hands, and we shall soon outnumber the CROIX DE ST. LOUIS an hundred fold.

And

And as this Order will be much more numerous, so will it be much more honourable than any other Order of any other Country.

Ay! even than *that*, with which the *bumble* Earl of Bute was invested at the same time with the elder * of the King's Brothers, and in Preference to all the younger: For notwithstanding that this Order will be conferred, as all others are, by the *sole Direction* of the FAVOURITE; yet, unlike all others, it will be conferred on *Merit only*.

Its Value will likewise be enhanced not only by those who are admitted to it, but by those too who are excluded from it. In which last Number I presume to rank your Lordships.

You would not like such *grinning* Honour. Your *Modesty* would not let you *stage* yourselves in the People's Eyes. And besides, whatever Exploit of yours might conduct you to such a SCAFFOLD, it would reflect no Honour at all on *you*, and might be attended with too much DANGER.

I used to think (as I had been told) that the King was the sole Fountain of Honour; and that from him originally flowed all those Distinctions that are honourable in the Realm.

-----It is not so.-----

* The Author is mistaken in this Particular. Lord Bute was sworn indeed of the Privy Council together with His Royal Highness the Duke of York; but he was invested with the Order of the Garter *only* with His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester.

10 T H E P E T I T I O N O F

A corrupt JUDGE and an iniquitous FAVOURITE can by one Sentence confer more Honour on their Enemies, than the best of Kings can by a thousand Patents *on those whom he delighteth to honour.*

Let those who doubt this Truth, remember only with what *universal Contempt, what Hisses, and Execrations* was viewed the Star that glitters on the Breast of BUTE; and what Shouts of honest Joy, what hearty Triumph, and what loud Applause attended the plain, rug Coat of a poor and obscure Printer in the PILLORY.

Strange! That such clear Streams should flow from so impure a Source! That Enmity should best perform the Work of Favour; and the Sentence of *Condemnation from a JEFFERIES, be* more honourable than the Marks of Approbation even from a GEORGE!-----

O! thou wise God! that canst thus bring Good out of Evil, and turn the Fury of tyrannical Oppressors to the Advantage of those whom they persecute!

At thy Command the Waters issued from the flinty Rock: Again, by thy Decree, the sink of Infamy and Baseness pours forth the clearest Streams of Glory.

But, my Lords, it is not GLORY only that I plead for; I sue for SAFETY. This is the only Refuge left for me and for my Countrymen. HERE only-----in the Pillory-----can we find it.

THIS Asylum you will not invade.

HERE

HERE at least we may be free. The Fav'rite hath not built
 HERE for his Envy: will not drive us HENCE:
 HERE we may rest secure; and, in my Mind,
 Honour is worth Ambition----in a PILLORY.

Yes! I repeat it, HERE only can we dwell in Safety; free
 from the Violence of Secretaries, Warrants, and State Messengers.

For HERE we are indeed in the Hands of our Country.

Formerly that Retreat was found in our Courts of Justice; and
 an ENGLISHMAN could answer with Assurance---*I will be tried by
 God and by my Country.*---Can he do so now, when he finds united
 in *one Man* (who is not his Countryman) the distinct and inconsistent
 Offices of Prosecutor, JUDGE, and Juror?

No! Wilkes thou art not alone.---We are all OUT-LAWED.
 Sentence is passed on all.

The only Difference is, that they have *formally* driven thee from
 the Protection of the Laws, and they have *virtually* taken the Pro-
 tection of the Laws from us.

When your Lordships have granted me this Favour of the Pillory
 ---a mere Matter of Honour for the Author---may I presume to
 hope you will likewise add one of Interest for the Publisher.

You will easily conceive that I mean the Ceremony of burning
 this Petition by the Hands of the common Executioner.

I call

I call this a Matter of Interest; for the formal Burning of a Work at Tyburn will shortly become the only received IMPRIMATUR. And in order to stamp and establish the Merit of any Piece, and to make it acceptable to the Public, it will soon be as necessary that it pass thro' the Hands of the HANGMAN, as it was formerly that it should pass thro' those of a LICENSER.

But this last Circumstance will not be so extraordinary; since they who would most properly and *aptly* have filled the FIRST of those Offices, have most improperly seized upon and invested themselves with the OTHER.

And here, my Lords I finish my Petition.

I have no more to ask. And tho' I shall be thankful for any farther Mark of Distinction from your Lordships, yet I presume not to press too far the Mildness and Bounty of your Natures.

All in good Time: What I shall be found to deserve at your Hands, as your Power of *rewarding Merit* increases, there is no Doubt but I shall receive from your Generosity and Gratitude:--- for GENEROSITY and GRATITUDE are, and ever have been, the distinguishing and characteristic Virtues of your Nation.

I hope your Lordships are sensible of the Author's Modesty; at least as far as relates to the MATTER of this Petition. He might have added to it many other Articles; but has confined himself singly to---the PILLORY for himself, and---BURNING for his Work.

The

The Affair of IMPRISONMENT he leaves intirely to your Wisdom and Discretion : tho' indeed he rather considers that as a Thing of Course. For your Lordships no Doubt have somewhere read that Truth (if it is a Virtue) is a Virtue like the Plague--- (having too often the same Quality of making us generally shunned and avoided.)

Wifely therefore do your Lordships, to prevent spreading the Infection, send it to perform Quarrantine in the King's Bench.

MUTILATION too he has forborne to mention : tho' intirely of your Sentiments---that from the natural Body, as well as from the *Body politic, should be lopped without Mercy the Members that offend.*

Squeeze out therefore the Eyes that presume to pry into your Mysteries and Intrigues of State or LUST.

Slit be the Nose that dares to smell a RAT.

Wring off the Ears, and root up the Tongues that listen to or whisper the Words---LIBERTY and LAWS.

And for the Sake of *Congruity*, for your own Satisfaction, and Certainty of a punctual Performance,---be yourselves the Executioners of the Sentences you pass.----And let FULVIA, * with her Bodkin, pierce thro' again the Tongue of CICERO.

* The Note on this Passage is lost.

D But

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But you may go farther than this Scheme of *partial* Punishment.
 ---Nay, you *must*. For *Chopping off the Hands of Authors* would be doing worse than nothing. They spring up like Hydra's Heads. And it is to be apprehended, lest the remaining Stump of some poor, mangled Carcase, instead of INK, should write his Purposes in BLOOD.

+ Commencez donc
 par nous couper
 les Mains qui
 peuvent écrire,
 arrachez nous la
 Langue qui parle
 contre vous,
 arrachez nous l'Âme
 qui n'a pour vous
 que des Sentimens
 d'Horreur.

Hang up at once then all who can read or write. +

You have a PRECEDENT in CADE *. And for the Justification of any infamous and dirty Business, it is *at present* sufficient that there is a PRECEDENT.

FLAGELLATION and FINE he has likewise left unsolicited.

For the FIRST, he thinks, (not being the Punishment of a FREEMAN,) would be most aptly applied to the bare Breach of your own slavish Countrymen.

Philosophe Ignorant
 Page 148. published
 since this was printed.

* Enter a Clerk.
 Weaver. The Clerk of Chatham. He can WRITE and READ, and cast Accompts.

Jack Cade.---O Monstrous!

Weaver. We took him setting Boys Copies.

Cade.---Here's a Villain!

Weaver. He has a Book in his Pocket with red Letters in it.

Cade. I am sorry for it. The Man is a proper Man upon mine Honour. Unless I find him guilty he shall not die. Come hither, Sirrah, I must examine thee. Dost thou use to write thy Name? Or hast thou a Mark to thyself like an honest, plain-dealing Man?

Clerk. Sir, I thank God, I have been so well brought up, that I can write my Name.

Cade. He hath confest. Away with him. He is a Villain and a Traytor. Away with him, I say. Hang him, with his Pen and Inkhorn about his Neck.

Second Part of Henry 6. Act 4.

And

And he considers the SECOND as unnecessary and trifling; when such excessive and exorbitant ^{Fines} ones are already levied upon the whole ENGLISH Nation, in order to provide for that enormous Load of PLACES, POSTS, and EMPLOYMENTS; of PENSIONS, TITLES, GOVERNMENTS, and REVERSIONS, which are, beyond all former Example, multiplied, to satisfy the Greediness of your hungry Countrymen and Dependents, and to gain a MAJORITY in a certain

BRANDING and SECURITY for *Good Behaviour* seem both superfluous. He desires to be no otherwise marked than as Author of this Petition: and hopes it may likewise serve as a sufficient Earnest of his future Conduct.

But, my Lords, tho' modest in the MATTER of his Petition, the Author may perhaps be condemned by your Lordships, for presuming, *all ENGLISHMAN as he is*, to solicit ANY THING from you.

And yet if *Desert* gives any Claim to Favour, he has a strong one on you both: For there is now in the Press, and speedily will be published---by the same Hand---*A full and unanswerable Defence of Lord Chief Justice Jefferies, from the vile Aspersions and infamous Calumnies of Revolutionists, Whigs, and Republicans.*

And for you, my other noble Lord, he has always eminently distinguished himself, and stood forth the foremost in your Behalf. He has always maintained, and does so still, that they charge you unjustly

unjustly and ignorantly, that call you UPSTART---and say you sprung up like a MUSHROOM.

For tho' indeed it is true that you were reared in a HOT-BED; Yet he, (who knows better than these Cavillers,) knows very well that your Lordship's Exaltation was not the Work of a MOMENT, nor the EFFECT of CHANCE and CAPRICE: but the Consequence of a tedious Course of ASSIDUITY, LABOUR, and TROUBLE.

No! my Lord, there was a Time when you literally and strictly fulfilled the Decree of God: and, if you did get BREAD, like our first Parent, you did "*eat it in the Sweat of your Face* *".

* The Author, instead of a Note on this Passage, presents the Public with a true and accurate Plan of SOME Part of KEW-GREEN.

And yet if I do not give any Claim to Favour, he has a strong one on you both: For there is now in the Press, and speedily will be published---by the same Hand---a full and unanswerable Defence of Lord Chief Justice Jeffries, from the vile Aspersions and Slanders of Revolutionists, Whigs, and Republicans.

And for you, my other noble Lord, he has always distinguished himself, and stood forth as foremost in your Bedchamber. He has always maintained, and does so still, that they charge you unjustly.



A true and accurate Plan of some Part of KEW-GREEN.

W. The P. D. of Wales's House and Gardens.

I. A House belonging to Sir William Irby.

E. A House of Sir Harry Erskine.

B. The House in which Lord Bute's FAMILY resides.

A. A House built for Lord Bute (TO STUDY IN,) and where none of his Family resides) and kept for him by one S---, a German, who is Brother to the Ps. of W's. WOMAN; and was formerly a menial Servant to the Duke of St. Albans; but now HOUSE-KEEPER to Lord BUTE. By means of which LUCRATIVE Post he is at present become a Man of considerable Property and Fortune.

L L. A double Row of Trees shading a Gravel Walk that leads down from Lord BUTE's House to F F.

F F. A Doof in the P. D. of W's Garden Wall, which communicates with Lord BUTE's Garden.

R. No COMMUNICATION between the P. D.'s Gardens, and the House in which Lord Bute's FAMILY resides.

18 T H E P E T I T I O N O F

As your Lordship's Advancement was not sudden, so neither was it *unforeseen*. For tho', like the Miner Mole, you still kept working in the DARK; Yet they who were at all in the Secret of Affairs, saw very plainly both the Nature of your Employment, and its Consequences.

Nor was the Public intirely uninformed: for so long ago as the Year 1758,[†] one of OUR Countrymen (how rarely do we meet that Prodigy---an *English-Scotch-Man*) the honourable *Alexander Hume Campbel* took Care to give a HINT of it in some Verses. Which may serve as no improper Offering to "the only true Judge and Patron of Merit in this Kingdom *". And they are accordingly presented to your Lordship.

A fit Prologue to Agis †.

Which was handed about in Manuscript, on the first Appearance of that Tragedy in 1758.

If, in these Days of Luxury and Ease,
A Play from Scotia's itchy Climes can please;
If Taste, no longer orthodox, can chuse,
The sniv'ling Cant of a fanatic Muse.
Agis and Douglas claim unbounded Praise,
And Hume from Shakespear tears away the Bays.

He

* See D. Malloch's Ded. of *Elvira* to Lord B.

†. It may not be amiss to inform the *English* Reader, that this Tragedy (which he most certainly has *not* read) is no other than the History of the Life and Death of K. Charles the first.

Which

He saw the Poet's Prize beyond his Reach,
Had no more Wit to write, than Grace to preach.
For Scotia, tho' her sons will fally forth,
Lies, in the Map of Poetry, far North-
Crude, unconcocted is her Muse's Fruit;
No Sun to rear, no Soil to give it Root.

Hume's half-starv'd Genius staring in his Face,
Cries----"Wherefore stay'ft thou in this grov'ling Place?
"Wealth waits on him who to his Genius yields,
"Fly to BUTE's Hot-House, rais'd in Leic'ster Fields.
"There find the fost'ring Dung, and sheltring Glafs,
"That make Scotch Cucumbers for Melons pass.

Thus spurr'd, he kicks his Pony's heaving Sides,
And rich in Hope to Edin's City rides.
There first the Patron of his tender Years
(Whose Atheist Covering clokes his Afs's Ears,

Which Event (tho' in itself the strongest Lesson to Princes not to *despise* their People, and drive them to *Extremities*) is yet so managed by this Author as to serve quite a contrary Purpose.

So that this Play might not improperly be stiled---*An Example for a young Prince* (displayed in a Manner the most effectual to make an Impression on a youthful Mind) to teach him

"The only Lesson that his Nature needs" viz. not to be "too mild".
For "Clemency and Mildness will undo him."

See Agis Act 2. Scene 1. and Act 5. Scene 1.

In order to explain this Conduct of the Poet, it will be sufficient to say, that he wrote by the Direction, and was strenuously supported by the Interest of Lord Bute. So strenuously, that of---12. successive Representations of this Piece, the Family in L---- Fields attended---4.

This play was again acted, by his Majesty's Command, on the 29th. of January, 1761.

To

To bleſs implores.---*Prophetic David* cried
 " Ride unabash'd, my Son, in Triumph ride;
 " *The Fall of Agis Faction's Taſte ſhall ſuit,*
 " *And Scotchmen ſwear there's ſuch a Soul in BUTE.*
 " Juſt, gentle JEFFERIES ſhall thy Theme commend,
 " And L--- Houſe alternate Nights attend.
 " The DOUBLE-MASTER'D * *Prieſt, to Intreſt only true,*
 " *False to his GOD AND KING, ſhall join the dirty Crew.*

Hume hear'd, and flogg'd his Hackney from the Door,
 Who jogg'd unconſcious of the Wit he bore.

Great Dulneſs now with Party-Zeal combin'd,
 Hath round the Parſon's Head the Laurel twin'd
 In ſpite of Nature and Contempt of Art;
 Noiſe, Faction, Impudence maintain their Part.
 Reviewing Critics join'd with Grubſtreet Hacks,
 Scotch Lairds, and all the Progeny of Mac's.
 Yet can't make Din enough with all their Bands,
 Becauſe they're bound to clap with cover'd Hands.

* The DOUBLE-MASTER'D *Prieſt*] The B p. of -----, (who finds it eaſier to ſerve TWO *Maſters* than ONE *Miſtreſs*) in the Adverſement to his *Doctrine of Grace*, Page III, ſays—" I have a MASTER above, and I have ONE below. I mean GOD, and the KING. To them my SERVICES are bound."

A Proof this, that his *Lordſhip* has not "*pray his Pible*," any better than MR. WARBURTON did. (See *Canons of Criticiſm*. Introduct to 1ſt. Edit. Page 19.)

For, unfortunately for the Biſhop, our Saviour has declared that "no Man can SERVE TWO MASTERS: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or elſe he will hold to the one and diſpiſe the other."

His Lordſhip may take which Side of the Alternative he pleaſes: tho' it is not difficult to determine which HE will chuſe.

May

*May this glad Scene erect all SCOTTISH Parts,
 To meet with Vigour High-Dutch W---s^{idows} Hearts.
 May ev'ry HIGHLAND CHIEF such D---s^{aw's} find,
 That EVIL to the ITCH be ever join'd.*

But, my Lord, the Author's strongest Plea in your Defence is yet behind.

And that is, that your Method of Proceeding does more effectually and strictly than any other Motive, inforce the Necessity and the Practice of Virtue.

Your Lordship's firm and persevering Conduct has effected what our Laws never could. And an ENGLISHMAN now is under a Necessity of being either absolutely free from Faults and Indiscretions,---which is difficult---or your Friend---which is impossible.

For we have seen, by Mr. Wilkes's Treatment, that no Man who is not, and who has not always been, absolutely PERFECT himself, must dare to arraign the Measures of a Minister.

It is not sufficient that he pay an inviolable Regard to the Laws; that he be a Man of the strictest and most un-impeached Honour; that he be endowed with superior Abilities and Qualifications; that he be blessed with a benevolent, generous, noble, free Soul; that he be inflexible, incorruptible, and brave; that he prefer infinitely the Public Welfare to his own Interest, Peace, and Safety; that his Life be ever in his Hand, ready to be paid down

F

cheerfully

cheerfully for the Liberty of his Country; and that he be dauntless and unwearied in her Service.-----All this avails him nothing.

If it can be proved (tho' by the base Means of TREACHERY and THEFT) that in some unguarded, wanton Hour he has uttered an indecent Word, or penned a loose Expression---Away with such a Fellow from the Earth;----it is not fit that he should live.

O! Did my youthful Countrymen reflect on this! Did they only consider the Consequence of one imprudent Action! that it will in future prevent them from doing even good ones;---that it will not let them even serve their Country with Effect! How cautious would they be not to violate the slightest Decorum!

They would leave the most ridiculous Prejudices of Folly and Superstition untouched, lest they should incapacitate themselves from offering hereafter a nobler Service to their Country, by defending the common Rights of Mankind, and standing forth the Champions of PUBLIC LIBERTY.

Wonder not, ye Sons of Freedom, that so few are found who dare to undertake your Cause.

The Party of the PERFECT (even if that *were* a Security) never can be numerous. And they who have ever in their Lives committed one vicious, nay imprudent Action, have no other Choice but to receive with Silence and Submission the Yoke of Servitude. For if THEY speak---they are undone.

And

And yet, if every Man who has made an *Essay on woman* is BY THAT disqualified from attacking your Oppressors, and FOR THAT to be *abandoned* by you ; where will you find Defenders ?

Look into your ADVERSARY'S List of VIRTUOUS Dependents, and you will find HIM not so *nice* in the Choice of his INSTRUMENTS.

Consider well the Merits of the present Ministers and Placemen, and you will perceive that Lord Bute's Sentiments tally exactly with those of Cæsar. Who made no Scruple to declare that " if THIEVES and MURDERERS were instrumental to him in acquiring the Empire, he would rank them amongst his Friends, " and reward them with the Spoils of his virtuous Enemies."

Is not this exactly our present Situation ? And does not the FAVOURITE pursue precisely the ^{same} Plan ?

Do we not see that whilst the mildest Punishments, (or none at all,) are inflicted on the more venial Offences of PERJURY, TREASON, SODOMY, and MURDER ;---Whilst a W^{ebbe}, a B^{ute}, and a K^{idgel}, together with that ever-renowned and worthy Groupe of ministerial ASSASSINS, F^{orbes}, D^{unn}, and M^{artin},---are caressed and rewarded ;---the constitutional Powers and the Laws are stretched to find out a Punishment adequate to, and cruel enough for the unpardonable Crime of PATRIOTISM and PUBLIC SPIRIT.

Even I, my Countrymen, who now address myself to you,--- I, who am at present blessed with Peace, with Happiness and Independence,

pendence, a fair Character, and an easy Fortune, am at this Moment forfeiting them all.

Soon must I be beggared, vilified, imprisoned. The Hounds of Power will be unkenneled and laid upon the Scent. They will track out diligently my Footsteps from my very Cradle.

And if I shall be found *once* to have set my Foot awry,---It is enough.---Instant they open on me.---My private Faults shall justify their PUBLIC Infamy, and the Follies of my Youth be pleaded in Defence of their riper Villainy.

Spirit of HAMPDEN, RUSSEL, SIDNEY! animate----my Countrymen!

I invoke not your Assistance for myself: for I was born INDEED A FREE-MAN.

My Heart, in its first Pantings, beat to LIBERTY. *She* is twisted with my Heart-strings, and cannot be torn from thence.

THEY have formed together a GORDIAN Knot, which cannot be *untwisted* by the subtle Finger of CORRUPTION, nor *loosened* by the Touch of FEAR. Nothing can separate us. No! not the cruel and bloody SWORD * of TYRANNY.

* The Knot which Alexander could not by his Ingenuity untangle, he cut with his Sword.

This Method of getting over a Difficulty has been ever and invariably pursued by all Tyrants,---whether Kings or Ministers.

As those who have been always accustomed, saith Milton "to use their Power as their *right* Hand, their Reason only as their left."

See Milton's Εὐκοῦλας.

Her

A N E N G L I S H M A N .

25

Her Union with me is lovely and honourable thro' Life; and even
in Death I will not be divided from her.

I am,

My LORDS,

NOT YOUR SERVANT, BUT

AN ENGLISHMAN.

March, 1765.

F I N I S .

22 A. H. E. N. G. L. I. S. H. A. M.

november 1851 and is lovely and handsome (and even
and I will not be divided from her

I am,

My Lords,

Not your servant, but

A. H. E. N. G. L. I. S. H. A. M.



1851

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